

REMARKS

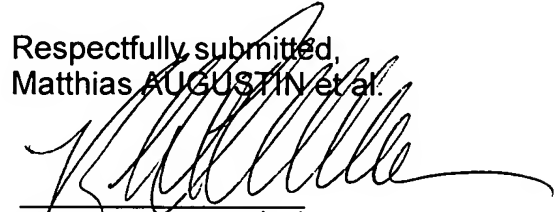
Upon entry of the present amendments, claims 24 to 47 will be pending, with claims 24 and 29 being independent claims. Support for the new claims can be found throughout the present specification and in the cancelled claims.

It is pointed out that the cancellation of claim 1 to 23 is without prejudice or disclaimer, and Applicants expressly reserve the right to prosecute the cancelled claims in one or more continuation and/or divisional applications.

The Patent and Trademark Office is hereby authorized to charge any required fees or refund excess payments to Deposit Account No. 19-0089.

Should there be any questions, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,
Matthias AUGUSTIN et al.



Neil F. Greenblum
Reg. No. 28,394

Robert W. Mueller
Reg. No. 35,043

August 1, 2006
GREENBLUM & BERNSTEIN, P.L.C.
1950 Roland Clarke Place
Reston, VA 20191
(703) 716-1191